**Problem-Solution Thesis Statements**

The thesis is truly the heart and soul of any research paper. It states what the paper is about and gives the reader an idea of what information will follow. Think of it as the topic sentence for your entire paper.

The thesis is an idea, opinion, or conclusion about your topic, is proven by your research, and is the last sentence of your introduction.

A good thesis IS:

Ø a statement made in one well-developed sentence

Ø clear and to the point

Ø based on information you find in your reading and prove with your research-it can be supported

Ø specific and focuses on information that can be explored in the length of your paper

A good thesis is NOT:

Ø a question (Did you know that Global Warming is a real problem?)

Ø an “I” statement (I learned that Global Warming is a problem in our world that must be addressed.)

Ø vague and wandering (Global Warming is a threat to everyone.)

Ø overly obvious (Global Warming has been in the news a lot lately.)

Ø overly general (Global Warming exists in our world.)

Ø emotional (Global Warming must be stopped or we will all die!)

A Thesis Statement needs the following:

1. Consists of 2 parts: the problem and the solutions (the main body paragraphs for your paper)

2. End of 1st paragraph

3. Can be written as two sentences or combined with a semicolon.

Examples:

Many children suffer long-term consequences of bullying. However, the problem can be remedied through a three-pronged approach: educating the parents, encouraging a community atmosphere, and implementing a peer mediation program.

Pollution from car exhaust is contributing to problems with the ozone layer, so cars should be re-

designed to avoid pollution problems.